

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject patent application are respectfully requested.

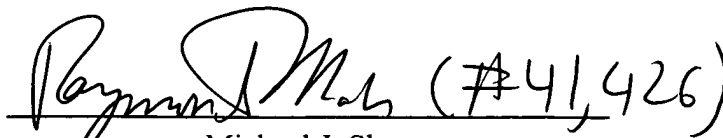
Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the indication that claims 141-152, 171-182, 184-195, 202, 203, 205, 206, 208-221, 223-236 and 238-251 contain allowable subject matter. Allowable claims 173, 175, 177, 179, 181, 182, 186, 188, 190, 192, 194, 195, 202, 203, 205, 206, 210, 212, 214, 216, 218, 219, 220, 221, 240, 242, 244, 246, 248, 249, 250 and 251 have been written in self-standing independent form. Claim 174 depends from claim 173; claim 176 depends from claim 175; claim 178 depends from claim 177; claim 180 depends from claim 179; claim 187 depends from claim 186; claim 189 depends from claim 188; claim 191 depends from claim 190; claim 193 depends from claim 192; claim 211 depends from claim 210; claim 213 depends from claim 212; claim 215 depends from claim 214; claim 217 depends from claim 216; claim 241 depends from claim 240; claim 243 depends from claim 242; claim 245 depends from claim 244; and claim 247 depends from claim 246. The remaining claims have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer and Applicants reserve the right to file a divisional application directed to the subject matter of these canceled claims.

The pending claims are believed to patentably distinguish over the applied documents and favorable office action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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